

Serial No.: 10/786,132
Art Unit: 2617

Attorney's Docket No.: CING02-108 (523612-0000016)
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Fig. 4. This sheet, which includes Fig. 4, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-21 were pending in this application. In the Office Action:

- Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 18 was otherwise deemed allowable if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph was overcome.
- Claims 1-10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0105927 to Holma.
- Claims 11-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holma in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0151304 in view of Hogan.
- Claims 13-17 and 19-21 were withdrawn from consideration.

In this Amendment, claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Element 102 of Figure 4 has also been amended. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment claims 1-12, and 18 will be pending and under consideration.

Amendment to Figure 4

In Figure 4, element 102 has been amended to correct errors. As amended, element 102 in Figure 4 now consistent with element 102 as shown in Figure 3.

Rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112

With respect to claim 18, the Examiner is thanked for indicating allowable subject matter. Claim 18 has been Amended herein to more clearly recite the invention. In particular, the portions deemed indefinite by the Examiner have been deleted. The phrase “a flag convention understandable by a partner mobile network” has been changed to “a flag for use by a partner mobile network.” The phrase “increasing the likelihood that a handover will be to a home mobile network cell” has been changed to “handling the communication through the home mobile network whenever the mobile station is in a region in which the home mobile network operates. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 18 as amended is not indefinite, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph should be withdrawn. Nor does either amendment change the scope of the claim. The phrase “handling the communication through the home mobile network whenever the mobile station is in a region in which the home mobile network operates” merely recites subject matter similar to the immediately preceding limitation, in the context of defining how revenues are increased. Accordingly, claim 18, as presently amended, should be in allowable condition.

Rejection of Claims 1-10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 has been amended to include additional limitations that are also recited in claim 18, including establishing a flag for use by a partner mobile network and a home mobile network, the flag indicating that a mobile station belongs to a subscriber to the home mobile network; and storing information including the flag in a database that is in communication with the partner mobile network.

Claim 1, as amended, recites substantially all the subject matter of claim 18, *as well as* the limitation of determining that a handover from a first cell in the partner mobile network to a second cell among a plurality of candidate cells, is necessary to maintain communications for the mobile station. Therefore, to the extent that the Examiner has deemed the subject matter of claim 18 allowable, claim 1 also should be allowable.

Because the rejection of claims 2-12 was predicated at least in part on the rejection of claim 1, and because this Amendment should place claim 1 in allowable condition, claims 2-12 also should be allowable. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-10, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Date: July 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Sheet

LDE/RAR/pj

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